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501.38264X00

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Y. FUJII et al.  
Serial No.: 09/517,176  
Filed: March 2, 2000  
For: MAGNETIC DISK DRIVE AND METHOD OF CONTROL  
OF THE DRIVE (As Amended)  
Art Unit: 2651  
Examiner: D. Davidson

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Technology Center 2600

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

May 16, 2002

Sir:

As far as could be determined, a first Office Action on the merits in connection with the above-identified application had not been mailed as of the filing date of this Information Disclosure Statement.

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.97(b)(3) and 1.98, attached hereto are copies of U.S. Patent No. 5,606,470, Japanese references 7-182807 and 7-262539 (each of the Japanese references including an English abstract), and European reference 0 673 032, and a form PTO-1449 listing these four references.

Copies of English abstracts of Japanese reference 7-182807 and European reference 0 673 032 and a form PTO-1449 listing these two references were submitted on March 2, 2000, when the present application was filed. The form PTO-1449 attached hereto replaces the form PTO-1449 submitted on March

2, 2000, when the application was filed. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner draw lines through the listings of Japanese reference 7-182807 and European reference 0 673 032 on the form PTO-1449 submitted on March 2, 2000, when the application was filed to avoid duplications in printing the "References Cited" section of any patent which may issue from the present application.

Japanese reference 7-182807 is cited on page 2 of the substitute specification submitted with the preliminary amendment of September 21, 2000.

Japanese reference 7-262539 is cited on page 3 of the substitute specification.

U.S. Patent No. 5,606,470 is a U.S. counterpart of European reference 0 673 032 and Japanese reference 7-262539.

European reference 0 673 032 is an English-language counterpart of Japanese reference 7-262539.

Japanese references 7-182807 and 7-262539 are not in the English language.

The concise explanation of the relevance of Japanese reference 7-182807 required by 37 CFR 1.98(a)(3)(i) is provided by the English abstract of this reference, and by the discussion of this reference in the substitute specification as permitted by the last sentence of 37 CFR 1.98(a)(3)(i).

The concise explanation of the relevance of Japanese reference 7-262539 required by 37 CFR 1.98(a)(3)(i) is provided by the English abstract of this reference; by U.S. Patent No. 5,606,470 which is a U.S. counterpart of this


reference; by European reference 0 673 032 which is an English-language counterpart of this reference; and by the discussion of this reference in the substitute specification as permitted by the last sentence of 37 CFR 1.98(a)(3)(i).

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.97(b)(3), as far as could be determined, this Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits.

It is respectfully requested that this Information Disclosure Statement be considered.

Respectfully submitted,

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Attachments